

### REMARKS

The present amendment cancels claims 25-48 and 52-76 and adds new claims 77-88 directed to methods of staining electrophoresis gel slabs. Independent claim 77 is directed to a method of staining an electrophoresis gel slab including the step of manipulating the gel with a gel clamp by gripping the end the edge of the gel and positioning the gel in the staining tank. Independent claim 86 is directed to a method of positioning a plurality of electrophoresis gel slabs in a staining tank containing a staining solution and reciprocating the gel slabs in a linear direction to agitate the solution. These claims are fully supported by the specification as originally filed.

The pending claims in this application are claims 1-24, 49-51 and 77-88, with claims 1, 20, 49, 77 and 86 being independent. Prompt and favorable examination is requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Garrett V. Davis  
Reg. No. 32,023

Roylance, Abrams, Berdo & Goodman, L.L.P.  
1300 19<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W., Suite 600  
Washington, D.C. 20036  
(202) 659-9076

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